

Commissioner Steve Gaw, Chairman  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: Case #EW-2004-0596

Dear Commissioner Gaw:

I am deeply opposed to KCPL's proposed new coal-fired power plants that would be located near Platte County where I live. The negative health consequences of such plants are well-documented, including mercury pollution and other toxic contaminants detrimental to human health.

These new plants could also negatively impact Kansas City's economy since the city is already approaching non-compliance with federal ozone standards. Another plant--not to mention two plants--will greatly increase pollution in the Kansas City area and greatly push our city over the line for non-compliance with pollution regulations. The rate increase that would be required for such a large project could also greatly dampen business growth and development.

Our most recent Aug. elections clearly show that Missouri residents are greatly concerned about pollution and the addition of new coal-burning power plants. In the Platte County elections, where I live, both incumbent county commissioners who promoted the new KCPL power plants were voted out of office. In Springfield, Mo., citizens there also voted down financing for their proposed plant.

I enjoy the benefits of electrical power, but I would like to see power plants required to install NOW, at this immediate time, the scrubbers and other environmental protection equipment that can eliminate toxic wastes which threaten human health. We have this technology, but the Bush administration has NOT pushed power plants to install it, and in fact, has weakened requirements that require coal plants to install anti-pollution equipment. I hope you will require KCPL and other utility companies to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy resources through the use of incentives, tax breaks, etc. I also hope you will encourage these utility companies to clean-up and install equipment needed to eliminatate toxic emissions from their coal-burning plants.

Thanks for your consideration,

Tom Schwegler  
Platte County, Mo. resident